

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 5: Cancelled

6. (currently amended) A driving axle for a vehicle that is driven by an electric motor, comprising:

a driven motor shaft, wherein said electric motor is disposed on said motor shaft;

drive shafts coupled to said motor shaft via the interposition of a reduction transmission stage and a following differential transmission, wherein said drive shafts are intended for wheels respectively disposed thereon;

an externally toothed sun pinion that, as part of said reduction transmission stage, is disposed on said motor shaft, ~~which~~ wherein said motor shaft is mounted in motor shaft bearings that are connected to a gearbox of said reduction transmission stage, wherein said motor shaft bearings are embodied as bearings that absorb radial and axial forces;

a sleeve that is disposed and supported between said motor shaft bearings and said sun pinion ~~and is supported on opposite sides against said motor shaft bearings and said sun pinion;~~

a securing means disposed on a free end of said motor shaft for fixing said sun pinion against said sleeve; and

gears of said reduction transmission stage that mesh with said sun pinion, wherein said sun pinion and said gears are embodied as helical gears having a force component that acts in the direction of said motor shaft bearings.

7. (previously presented) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said sun pinion is supported directly against said sleeve.

8. (previously presented) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein a spacer disk is disposed between said sleeve and said sun pinion.

9. (previously presented) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said securing means fixes said sun pinion against said sleeve with bias.

10. (previously presented) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said sun pinion is disposed between said sleeve and said securing means with slight axial play.